Docket No.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Applicant

: Nancy A. Abbe

Application No. : 09/844,627 Confirmation No.: 2399

Orig. Filing Date : April 27, 2001

RCE Filing Date : November 15, 2002

For

: APPARATUS FOR STORING FOOD (as

amended)

Group Art Unit : 3727

Examiner

: Stephen Castellano

New York, New York 10020 December 9, 2002

Hon. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 2327 Arlington, VA 22202

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified RCE patent application, applicant respectfully requests consideration of this case in light of the following amendments and remarks: